(ii) State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling around the Tiger Reserves; and

(iii) Steps have been iniciated to set up a special Strike Force in the project Tiger Areas.

(iv) Special schemes for protection and conservation of tigers, elephants and rhinos and their habitate are being implemented.

(v) A network of Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of National Parks and Sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.

(vi) International trade in endangered Species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

(vii) A scheme of eco-development has been launched to reduce the biotic pressure on the area and winning over the support of local people to the aspect of wlidlife conservation.

Populaion in Sea-Shore areas of Maharashtra

1084. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that sea-shore of Maharashtra is becoming polluted;

(b) if so, the reaction is Government thereto; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTERY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. According to the coastal water quality monitoring carried out by the Department of Ocean Developmen water in the sea-shore of the Maharashtra is fairly turbid and has a relatively higher degree of pollutants due to voluminous discharge of untreated sevege through creeks bays and estuary.

(c) Government have already taken steps for prevention and control of pollution of the coastal waters in Maharashtra and these include:

(i) Industries have been directed to provide necessary effluent treatment and disposal arrangements under the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The compliance of consent conditions is checked by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board from time to time and suitable action is taken against non complying units as per provisions of the Water Act, 1974.

(ii) In case of cluster of chemical industries, effluent collection and disposal arrangements have been provided by Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (M.I.D.C.). Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) schemes have been planned for industrial areas in the coastal region of Maharashtra. CETP at Tarapur has already been commissioned.

(iii) Bombay Municipal Corporation (B.M.C) is implementing a sewerage project with the financial assistance of the World Bank. The first phase of this scheme is likely to be completed by 1998.

Centrally aided projects launched in Madhya Pradesh

1985. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the Centrally Aided Projects launched to save environment and forests in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise, in each district;

(b) the achievements made in this regard;

(c) the financial assistance provided in each scheme; and

(d) the details of the scheme proposed to be launched in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The details of the centrally aided projects launched to save environment and forests in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years alongwith achievement both financial and physical and districts covered are given in the statement at the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 172, Annexure No. 27]

(d) The projects are continuing in nature.

Water testing laboratory in Maharashtra

1936. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government have submitted any proposal to the Central for their approval for setting up of a Water Testing Laboratory in each district of the state;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether this proposal has been agreed upon; if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTERY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

वन-भूमि में कमी

1087. **श्री प्रमोद महाजन :** क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में वन-भूमि कई कारणों से कम होती जा रही है ;

(ख) अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मानदंडों के अनुसार देश में कितनी वन-भूमि होनी चाहिये और देश में वस्तुत: कितनी वन भूमि है ;

(ग) वन-भूमि में हो रही कमी को रोकने के लिये सरकार द्वारा क्या-क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि सरकार वृक्षारोपण योजना को प्रोत्साहन देने में निजी क्षेत्र का सहयोग प्राप्त करने का विचार रखती है ; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) जी, नहीं। भारतीय वन सर्वेक्षण, देहरादून द्वारा प्रकाशित 1991 और 1993 की स्टेट आफ फारेस्ट रिपोर्ट के वर्ष 1987–91 की अवधि से संबंधित भू उपग्रह प्रति बिम्बियकी के दृश्य विवेचन पर आधारित वन आवरण के तीसरे एवं चौथे मूल्यांकन से यह पता चला है कि पूर्ण मूल्यांकन की अपेक्षा देश के वन आवरण में कुल 582 वर्ग कि०मी० की वृद्धि हुई है।

(ख) वन आवरण के लिये कोई अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मानदंड नहीं है। भारतीय राष्ट्रीय वन नीति में कहा गया है कि देश के कुल भू क्षेत्र के एक तिहाई भाग पर वन या वृक्ष आवरण होना चाहिये। भारत की भौगोलिक क्षेत्र के 23.4 प्रतिशत क्षेत्र पर वन क्षेत्र पाया जाता है। वर्ष 1993 की वन रिपोर्ट की स्थिति के अनुसार देश के भौगोलिक क्षेत्र के 19.47 प्रतिशत भाग पर वास्तविक वन आवरण है।

(ग) वनों की सुरक्षा एवं संरक्षण के लिये सरकार द्वारा किये गये विभिन्न उपायों में, वन संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 को कड़ाई से कार्यान्वित करना, अवक्रमित वनों के अनुसार पुनरूद्धार सहित व्यापक वनीकरण कार्यक्रम, सहभागी वन प्रबंध, सामाजिक एवं कृषि वानिकी, पारिविकास कार्यक्रम, बढ़ाई गई सुरक्षा के कार्यकलाप आदि शामिल है।

(घ) और (ङ) देश में अवक्रमित वन भूमि की काफी मात्रा में अवैध कब्जे